

# Honolulu Star-Bulletin

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EDITOR

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May you live all the days of your life.—Swift.

## ANOTHER MEXICAN CRISIS

Another crisis in Mexico! It is the third serious entanglement that Francisco I. Madero has faced since he drove old Porfirio Diaz from his dictatorship. Or, rather, it is another climax in the series of crises that has kept the southern republic in strife and turmoil for more than two years.

The present situation, tense almost to the breaking-point now, so far as the United States is concerned, brings intervention nearer than it has been at any time since the spring of 1911, when the Madero revolution assumed its most formidable proportions and Taft concentrated a big force in Texas. It is a matter of history now that after some months of showy work along the border, the troops were recalled, to the infinite relief of Madero and his men. They alleged that the powerful American interests which profited by the Diaz regime of exploitation had brought about the American martial manifesto to overawe the revolutionists and help Diaz out of a bad mess. If such was the case, Taft's refusal to send the troops across the border upset as pretty a plot of "Big Business" as can be imagined.

Students of Mexican affairs have good reason to wonder if American interests are not trying to force Uncle Sam into a position where interference will be the only logical result. Some of these interests are pretty close to the presidency. The Southern Pacific railway has immense interests in the northern and northwestern states of the republic. The Kansas City, Mexico & Orient railroad is another corporation with large holdings in the same section. Standard Oil's lands in Mexico run into thousands of acres, and the Waters-Pierce Oil company is probably as heavily concerned. The noted London firm of Pierson & Son, builder of the Tehuantepec railroad, was given immense concessions in return for its past work and present management of the railroad, which is handled under an arrangement with the government. These concessions include much oil property, and recently there have been statements that the Standard Oil people are to take hold of the Pierson crude-oil products. The Standard Oil refining interests in Mexico have been quite active of late.

Just how closely all these powerful interests are in touch with President Taft may be guessed by the fact that Henry W. Taft, brother of the president, is a director in Pierson & Son. He is also a director in the American-Hawaiian Steamship company, which has secured a fat contract from the Diaz government for handling freight via the Tehuantepec road. Henry W. Taft is also a director and general counsel for the United States of the National Railways of Mexico. The president's brother is thus strongly placed in the triangle of the United States government, the Mexican government and the great concessionaires.

There are other Americans close to the Taft administration who are interested in Mexican affairs. David E. Thompson, former ambassador from this country, is one of them. Another was Paul Morton, former secretary of the navy, who became hugely interested in the Pan-American railway and whose business associates, since his death, have maintained their stand in administration circles. Henry Lane Wilson, present ambassador to Mexico, seems to have conducted himself creditably in a trying situation, but he is alleged to have made some Mexican investments also. John Hays Hammond, a prominent Taft supporter, has several fortunes tied up "south of the line."

So it is that American interests profited by the Diaz administration and have lost by the change. Madero's regime has been one of constant internal strife, and American interests have suffered untold losses. It is no wonder that pressure is brought to bear for intervention.

## BURYING MR. BRYAN

William Jennings Bryan as governor-general of the Philippines would just about suit a lot of Democrats who are trying to keep close to the sage of Princeton and having a hard time doing it. Two of these who might be mentioned are Boss Charley Murphy of Tammany Hall, and Thomas Fortune Ryan, the eminent juggler of insurance companies.

There is grim humor in the suggestion that Bryan should be planted down in the Philippines as governor-general, succeeding W. Cameron Forbes. If there is one thing that certain

elements in the Democratic party want, it is to see Bryan put in some remote spot or some red-taped position where he is harmless. The many occasions on which Bryan has "spilled the beans" for Tammany Hall and other Bourbon factors have not been forgotten. The latest occasion was in Baltimore last summer, when the Nebraskan turned loose a scathing denunciation that drove the bosses to cover and brought about the nomination of Wilson.

Mere mention of Bryan as secretary of state, as secretary of war, as ambassador to Great Britain, or for any one of numerous other important positions, drives several prominent Democrats to fury. They will hail with delight any plan to get him away from the center of the limelight. The Philippines are remote enough to keep him away from Washington, and the politicians doubtless feel that he will be so busy chasing dattos and trying to pull off a personal Big Brother Movement for seven million little brown men that he will not find time to bother about what is happening to the tariff, the money trust or big interests that hope to be of quiet service to the new regime.

In which hope W. J. is entirely likely to dis-appoint the politicians.

## PALACE SQUARE PLANS

Palace Square is due for the attention of the beautifiers, and a good move will be made by the Outdoor Circle of the Kilohana club if it succeeds in adding comeliness to the nearest approach to a "civic center" that Honolulu now has. It is to be hoped, however, that whatever plan of beautification is taken up will not necessitate diminishing the space now bounded by the executive building, the opera house, the Portuguese statue-worshipper, the vacant lot in front of the Carnegie library and the judiciary building with its changing exterior.

Honolulu needs a public square of some sort. Bishop park is going to accommodate two Yuletide celebrations this year, but next year Bishop park may have grown an office-building or two. If open-air celebrations continue to increase and multiply in this city, there must be a large open-air space near the municipal center to furnish the room necessary for abandonment of the feelings to the carnival spirit. San Francisco's Union Square is an example of what will be badly needed here in a few years.

Palace Square can stand a lot of beautifying, and should get it. But the beautifying should not involve cutting down the present open area. Whether the plans have progressed far enough to show whether such will be the case the Star-Bulletin does not know. We hope not.

Ed Howe, of Kansas and the world, is a visitor here today. Howe is a newspaperman whose achievements on the Atchison Globe were noteworthy. He has quit the active field of the daily paper and is now travelling a little, writing a little, and all the while observing people and things with a keen philosophy and an unerring eye for the sunlight, the pathos, the sham and the sincerity of life.

There is considerably more than idle gossip to the talk of a combination between Oahu and Kauai house-members to dethrone Speaker Holstein and seat Clarence Cooke in the chair. For that matter, it looks as if the Cooke forces ought to be able to count on some votes from Maui. Some of those who oppose Holstein are entirely confident that the trick can be turned.

One of the contestants in the Kalakaua avenue walking race yesterday was so surprised to see what the supervisors have done to the paving out that way that he lost his stride.

If the Pacific Mail is going to add another ship of the size of the Manchuria and the Mongolia, it might be suggested that a suitable name would be the Bulgaria.

At least President Taft will have the consolation of knowing that any action he may take in the Mexican crisis will not be laid to politics.

Honolulu's midwinter celebrations will soon be classed as a continuous performance.

Next week comes the unhappy time when we get our dates mixed.

It is too late to shop early, but then it's better late than never.

What are you doing to help the 1913 Floral Parade?

## LITTLE INTERVIEWS

WM. BUSH—It seems to me that if the photoplay company that is now here and the promotion committee are up to snuff, some "movies" of Kahanamoku in action will be made to send around the world.

ALEXANDER YOUNG—One night last week I had occasion to close the race track with a six by ten scintillating sixty feet long, surmounted by the usual red lantern. Next morning I discovered the scintillating broken in pieces and some of the pieces carried quite a distance down the track. But what gets me is what became of the corpse and the wreck.

J. WALTER DOYLE—Why not have some pavement roller-skating at the big New Year's Eve celebration? There will be two bands playing, one at one end of Bishop park and the other at the other end. Now let the dancers take the pavement next to Bishop park and have the pavement beside the Young hotel for roller-skaters. There are several very clever roller-skaters in the city. The shops will be closed and there will be nothing to interfere with the use of the pavements. The crowd will take to the center of the street, anyway, and, by the way, there is likely to be every kind of a skate but a cheap skate at the New Year's Day races at Kapo-lani park.

## HAWAII HEIRS

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Capt. Friedman specifically declared that he had no living heirs. Before his funeral was over, purported heirs living in every part of the civilized world began to appear as claimants to the estate. Then began one of the most famous will contests in the history of probate matters in California. Since its inception, twelve years ago, it has been kept constantly alive until yesterday.

**Trial Lasted Four Years.** During the actual trial of the contest, which began four years ago, and which continued without interruption for two years and four months, over 5,000,000 words of testimony went into the transcript of the proceedings. Murder was brought into the records by the charge of certain of the purported heirs that Friedman had not died a natural death, but had been murdered by people who would benefit under the will.

At least one of the heirs was examined as to his sanity on two occasions during the proceedings, and several others were in contempt of court because rumors had gained circulation that they had made alleged threats to revenge themselves on the judges connected with the case who had decided adversely in their claims.

Several of the attorneys connected with the case had all their expenses paid on "round the world" jaunts gathering evidence. Others have been receiving fat retainer fees for all the past twelve years, and in spite of all this, the estate which was valued at \$500,000 at the time of Friedman's death has a total value of almost a million dollars now.

**Many Friends Benefited.** By the provisions of Friedman's will \$300,000 was bequeathed in small amounts to many friends. These have all been paid. To many small charities was bequeathed a total sum of \$20,000, which has also been paid. To his natal home at Mitau, Russia, he bequeathed \$50,000 to be held in trust to establish a fund for the aged poor. This also was paid many years ago by agreement of all contestants. The remainder of the estate was bequeathed to the Hebrew Home for the Disabled.

It was over the residuary portion that the contest was waged. The many heirs contended that as the law prohibits the bequeathing of more than one-third of an estate to charity when there are living heirs, this part of the will was invalid. In his will Friedman says: "I am the youngest son of the late Burgher Solomon Elias Friedman of the city of Mitau and I am not aware of any kin who may have a legal right to claim a portion of my estate by right of representation or inheritance."

**Weeded Out Claimants.** Of the 11 original claimants, Judge Graham weeded them out from time to time until the actual trial began four years ago, when but thirty-four remained. As a matter of convenience they were separated into five groups, designated respectively as the Grunwaldt claimants, the Bernstein claimants, the Kagan claimants, the Liebe Friedman claimants and the Jacobson claimants. Of the merit of these various claimants Judge Graham's opinion says:

"A careful reading of the testimony discloses many contradictions and inconsistencies in the cases of the defendants, the purported heirs. No two of the cases made by the respective claimants can stand together. If the

## PERSONALITIES

JAMES E. JAEGER and J. B. Stewart of Honolulu, who are associated in numerous big enterprises in the Hawaiian Islands, are registered at the Stewart-San Francisco Examiner.

DR. A. N. SINCLAIR went to Hawaii Saturday to confer with Dr. Sexton there concerning the unification of the tuberculosis record system, as kept at headquarters here and on the Big Island. He will return tomorrow.

MR. AND MRS. C. TEMPLETON CROCKER returned from the east yesterday in their private car, after a visit to Mrs. Malcolm D. Whitman, formerly Jennie Crocker. With the Crockers were Mr. and Mrs. Walter S. Martin and Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Irwin. They will continue on to Honolulu—San Francisco Call.

court found in favor of one set all of the others must fail.

"Of the five sets of claimants four of them have sought to establish for Solomon Elias Friedman's wife, who was the mother of Julius Friedman, an entirely different pedigree.

"Several of the parties claim that Julius Friedman had a sister; others claim that he never had a sister. They differ also as to the number of brothers that he had. Each party has endeavored to prove his case by his own family tree and to connect Julius Friedman therewith.

"With this mass of conflicting evidence before the court and with the glaring deficiencies in the cases of the different defendants none of the cases presented is convincing or even satisfactory, and the court is forced to the conclusion, and therefore finds that none of the defendants were related to Julius Friedman or are his heirs."

## WICHMAN'S WINDOWS A FEATURE OF HOLIDAYS

The handsome show windows of H. F. Wichman & Co., always a feature of Honolulu's retail shopping district, are more beautifully decorated than ever this year, and they have the distinction not only of beauty but of an exclusive and insistent suggestiveness that carries the passer-by inside to learn more about the Christmas goods so temptingly displayed.

Silver, cut-glass and such ever-attractive goods are advantageously displayed, and the showing of art objects is remarkably effective and complete. The fans, bric-a-brac of various kinds, silver card and cigar and cigarette cases, deposit vases and like goods are very timely with the spirit of the season.

## LOCAL AND GENERAL

Manuel Fernandes, indicted for assault and battery with a weapon obviously dangerous to life, entered a plea of guilty to a lesser charge of merely assault and battery, and was fined \$25, with execution stayed until December 26.

Warrants were issued Saturday afternoon for the three men who robbed the Wailuku postoffice and stole the safe. They will arrive here tomorrow on the Mauna Kea. They have been identified as Gregorio Ancal, Jose Arias and Domingo Barblata. The crime is alleged to have been committed December 18.

Harrison Henry, brought back here from Los Angeles a year ago and sentenced to a year's imprisonment and pay a fine of \$100 for perjury before the federal grand jury, will be released tomorrow, under the poor convict act. He took the poor convict's oath today. For good behavior he had two months clipped from his sentence, but served an extra month in lieu of the fine, thus making eleven months his total time in jail.

## SOLDIERS BEING RUSHED

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contemplated, making a total expenditure for the artillery post of \$358,500.

At the present time there is no money appropriated for barracks and quarters at Kamehameha. There was a joint appropriation for the Philippines and Hawaii, of \$50,000, some time ago, out of which it was intended to build barracks for two companies, but all of this sum was diverted to the Philippines.

Major Cheatham stated this morning that he had no information regarding the appropriation now asked for, but that it had been recommended that two companies be sent to Kamehameha in the near future, and that the \$158,000 would just about build barracks and quarters for this number of men and officers. It is the ultimate intention to make Kamehameha a four-company post, so the sum mentioned as eventually to be asked for, would be accounted for. The buildings at Kamehameha will be frame, re-

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forced concrete construction not contemplated.

At present two 12-inch guns are mounted at Fort Kamehameha, and the emplacements and pits are ready for the mortar battery, but neither carriages nor mortars are involved as yet.

"I believe that the new board will want to make these improvements permanent, and if such is the case it would be absurd to spend large sums of money on temporary repairs to those streets. Furthermore, as a matter of principle I am vetoing these parts of the resolution. The six hundred dollars appropriated by resolution 748 for asphalt macadam on Mauna Kea street, is to pay for work already done, and the appropriation of \$1000 is for work on Nuuanu street, in front of the Dowsett property, which has been done."

## MAYOR CUTS

(Continued from Page 1)

of \$1200 and \$1000 for the repairs on King street from Nuuanu to Alakea

## HOUSES FOR RENT

### Furnished:

Tantalus .....	\$40.00
Kaimuki .....	\$45.00
Kahala Beach .....	\$75.00
Nuuanu Ave. ....	\$80.00
Pacific Heights ..	\$100.00
Wahiawa .....	\$30.00
Miki Lane .....	\$27.00

### Unfurnished:

Walpole .....	\$12.00
Wilder Ave. ....	\$35.00
Kaimuki, \$16.50	\$30.00 \$30.00
Ala Moana and Ewa Road ..	\$50.00
College Hills .....	\$25.00 \$50.00
Kalihi .....	\$5.00 \$15.00
Puwai Lane .....	\$12.00
Puunani Ave. ....	\$30.00
Bertram St. ....	\$15.00 \$20.00
Magazine St. ....	\$20.00

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UNLESS YOU RAISE YOUR OWN CHICKENS.

You old kamaainas, who have lived in Honolulu for years, will remember the box of fresh eggs at Noite's. This box of fresh eggs is from the Bellina ranch. Thirty minutes from the center of the city, we have a few acres left adjoining the Bellina ranch, suitable in every way for raising chickens. Surplus eggs are just like money in the bank. A very small cash payment will pay for one of these acre-lots. If you are in doubt or if you are skeptical in regard to the chicken-raising business in this locality, interview Mr. Williamson of 6th Avenue. In addition to this acre property, we have the following residence property:

We have property for sale in this district as follows:  
House and two lots, Palolo Hill ..... \$3500.00 || House and two lots, Wilhelmina Rise ..... | \$2500.00 |
House and lot, Park Ave., Kaimuki .....	\$2800.00
House and lot, Sixth Ave., Kaimuki .....	\$2700.00
3 lots, cor. Kaimuki and Eighteenth Ave. ....	\$1450.00
Claudine Ave. lots .....	\$400.00
Lot on Palolo Hillside .....	\$550.00
1450 Kewalo St. ....	\$500.00

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## For Sale

COLLEGE HILLS—2 choice residence lots 13,500 sq. ft. each .....	\$1250
OCEAN VIEW—Modern home with all conveniences .....	\$8500
New Bungalow, excellent view .....	\$7000
WILHELMINA RISE—5-room Bungalow .....	\$3000
KAIMUKI—Modern 4-room house, large grounds .....	\$4500
WAIKIKI—Choice building lot, 7200 sq. ft. ....	\$1750
PAWAA—Modern 1½ story house .....	\$4000
Fine building lot 12,981 sq. ft. ....	\$2000
PUNAHOU—6-room house and cottage .....	\$6000
1½ story modern cottage .....	\$4500
Modern 5-room bungalow .....	\$4350
PALAMA—3-bedroom house and lot .....	\$1750
PACIFIC HEIGHTS—Choice home .....	\$8000
WAIALAE TRACT—Several choice lots and acreage .....	

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